

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04739.0081-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Morio OBA et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Application No.: Not Assigned

Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: March 31, 2004

For: DESIGN DATA GENERATING
APPARATUS AND DESIGN DATA
GENERATING METHOD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

An English abstract of Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 9-36238 is attached and discussed at page 1 of the specification. Also an English abstract of Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 11-45352 is attached and discussed at page 2 of the specification.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

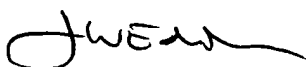
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 31, 2004

By: 
James W. Edmondson
Reg. No. 33,871

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	04739.0081	Serial No.	Not Yet Assigned
Applicants	Morio OBA et al.		
Filing Date	March 31, 2004	Group:	Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		9-36238	2/7/97	JAPAN			ABSTRACT
		11-45353	2/16/99	JAPAN			ABSTRACT

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce